

importance. He has served the House and our country as a true patriot, and we extend our thanks to him for his service, and wish him all the best for continued success.

#### HONORING MR. DAVID SEIM

#### HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 5, 2003*

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call my colleagues' attention to an honor recently bestowed on my constituent and friend, Mr. David Seim.

Recently, David was awarded the Rita Harmon Volunteer Service Award from the Lubbock Area United Way in recognition of his lifetime of community service. David's work with various organizations such as the South Plains Council of the Boy Scouts of America, the Lubbock Country Club, the Southwest Lubbock Rotary Club, YWCA, Covenant Health System and Trinity Church exemplify his selfless nature and dedication to the public good. Through his hard work and giving nature, the Lubbock community has benefited immensely.

David attended Texas Tech and graduated from the Southern Methodist University's Graduate School of Banking. While he works for Plains Capital Corp. in Dallas, he still lives in Lubbock and continues to serve as a board member of the Lubbock Area United Way.

It is with great pleasure, Mr. Speaker, that I honor this dedicated man for his commitment to give back to his community. David Seim has given much of his life to serving his community, and his efforts are greatly appreciated. I wish to congratulate David on his recent award and thank him for his continuing dedication to the public good.

#### VACCINE INGREDIENT PROVISIONS

#### HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 5, 2003*

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, the Homeland Security Act of 2002 included provisions related to vaccine injuries that have been misunderstood and misconstrued. I believed then and now that these provisions are good public policy: they clarify that vaccine injury claims involving vaccine ingredients, such as preservatives, are subject to the same no-fault compensation system as other vaccine-related injuries established by the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986. The alternative is needless, time consuming, and expensive litigation that is not in the best interests of those who believe they have been injured.

Congress established the Vaccine Program in 1986 for two reasons. The first was to provide definite, speedy, and generous compensation for those who suffer from vaccine-related injuries. The second was to address litigation and insurance costs that were spiraling out of control, which forced current manufacturers to leave the industry and discouraging others from developing important life-saving vaccines.

Now, of all times, is not the moment to allow the Vaccine Program to be dismantled. When

our enemies are engaged and determined to develop and expand their supply of chemical weapons, when we continue to face a terrorists threat at home, and when more and more of our troops are stationed overseas, we need effective vaccine production. We cannot afford to slow research and development, or experience a critical shortage of vaccines.

But this is precisely what is occurring today. Personal injury lawyers, who would like the larger fee that they might receive through litigation, are chipping away at the Vaccine Act in our Nation's courtrooms. They are trying to distinguish injuries allegedly related to ingredients contained in vaccines, such as preservatives, from the vaccine itself, in order to escape the no-fault system. The courts have done a good job at rejecting these attempts. The provisions in the Homeland Security Act simply sought to codify these decisions, preserve the intent of Congress in establishing the Vaccine Program, and ensure that the injured receive speedy and fair compensation.

I continue to support the vaccine ingredient provisions in the Homeland Security Act. I understand the provisions are being repealed without prejudice and not because of the substance. I am confident that these provisions will proceed through the House and be enacted. By reenacting the provisions, I believe Congress will address the issue in a manner that ensures the broad availability of vaccines for the American people.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO WAYNE HARRISON

#### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 5, 2003*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize Major Wayne Harrison of Dolores, Colorado. Recently, Major Harrison was recognized for his years of service in the Civil Air Patrol and awarded a Springfield M-14 rifle. Today, I would like to pay tribute to Major Harrison's career and accomplishments before this body of Congress and this nation.

Major Harrison began his career in the Civil Air Service as a cadet and moved up through the ranks to eventually teach cadets, passing on his knowledge of airplanes and flying. In fact, Wayne Harrison's superiors were so impressed with his abilities that he was promoted to the position of aerospace officer only a short time after joining the Civil Air Patrol. Serving in the position for three years, Wayne was then asked to become the commander of his squadron and he accepted.

Although the new position and added responsibility would be a challenge, Major Harrison also saw the promotion as an opportunity to help his fellow cadets. Over the years, Major Harrison used his position to serve as a role model to his cadets and helped many of them go on to colleges, military academies, and into the armed forces.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize Major Wayne Harrison before this body of Congress and this nation. Major Harrison has served with the diligence, honor and integrity that Americans have come to expect from the Civil Air Patrol, and it is an honor to represent such an outstanding American in this Congress.

#### RECOGNIZING THE AMERICAN FROZEN FOOD INSTITUTE ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 5, 2003*

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the American Frozen Food Institute (AFFI) on the occasion of its 60th Anniversary of service to the food industry. AFFI is the only national trade association representing the entire spectrum of frozen food professionals, including processors, suppliers of goods and services, transporters and marketers.

Like other complex enterprises, the frozen food industry benefits not only from competition, but also from cooperative, coordinated action. Launched in 1942 by 19 frozen fruit and vegetable packers, the National Association of Frozen Food Packers went on to become today's American Frozen Food Institute. AFFI's more than 500 member companies account for over 90 percent of the total annual production of frozen food in the United States, valued at more than \$60 billion.

AFFI works to ensure that nourishing and convenient frozen foods are continually abundant, reliable, varied, satisfying and economical. During its years of growing use and popularity, the technology of frozen foods has earned its place among modern America's constructive innovations.

When Clarence Birdseye, one March morning in 1930, optimistically combined an inventor's creativity with a salesman's confidence and arrayed his selection of neatly packaged, quick-frozen foods into a grocery store display case in Springfield, Massachusetts, he inaugurated an industry that would forever change the way the world eats.

The industry's momentum initially was driven by the economy and convenience of frozen foods. However, a further reality ultimately would ensure their enthusiastic endorsement by health experts: frozen foods supply superior nutrition. Following years of scientific studies at the University of Illinois, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration concluded in 1998 that fruits and vegetables picked at peak freshness and immediately frozen contain as many, and often more, nutrients than their raw equivalents. Moreover, for food of all kinds, modern freezing and packaging means unsurpassed food safety, reliable product consistency, and year-round availability anywhere.

In addition, I would invite my colleagues to join Congressman CAL DOOLEY and me on September 25 at the Frozen Food Filibuster, a reception showcasing the variety of frozen foods here in the Cannon Caucus Room. Congressman DOOLEY and I are co-chairmen of the frozen food caucus on Capitol Hill. Caucus participants are Members of Congress who have AFFI member companies' headquarters or plants located within their district, or an interest in the food industry in general. The Institute briefs the membership periodically on issues that affect their constituents who work in the frozen food industry. Our goal is to ensure the caucus is as active and innovative as the nation's frozen food companies.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to the American Frozen Food Institute. Our democratic institutions